

INSIDE

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#2

FRONT

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#2

DWID of
INTEGRITY

and
DARK EMPIRE
RECORDS

TONY of
VICTORY
RECORDS

TIM of
FOCUSED

STEVE of CONFRONT
& MEANSTREAK

VINCE of EDGEWISE
& HARVEST recs

MARK&ALEXEI
of OTIS REEM

CHRIS of
POINT BLANK
(R.I.P.)

BILLY of
DEADWAIT

— THE INTERVIEW ISSUE —

INLAND EMPIRE Productions

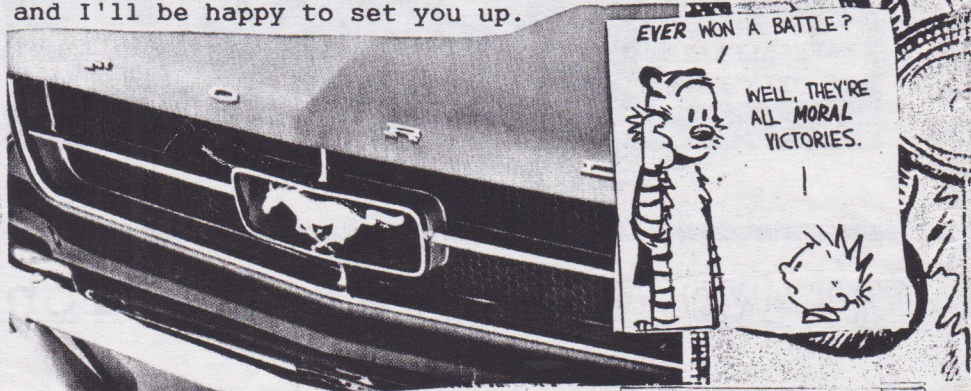
INSIDE FRONT II

THE INTERVIEW ISSUE

This is the second issue of INSIDE FRONT, a factsheet 4 straightedge, hardcore, and upright living. If you want information about how to get your hands on previous or future issues, turn to the back. In this issue, I aim to make available information and various perspectives I got from interviewing a variety of people involved with this sort of scene. I'm not representing my own views or endorsements in these interviews, necessarily; rather I am providing these people a forum to be heard. And if you think any of them should be 'blacklisted' and not heard from, fuck you ya punk you won't be heard from here. A word on the interviews: I don't have any devices for recording telephone conversations, so instead I will describe the interview in general, myself, in the past tense; this is the most honest way to represent what took place, and just to be sure I do not misrepresent anyone I will be sure that everyone I interviewed has a chance to see my version of what we discussed. I hope some of you can learn something from this issue, if nothing else maybe some fucking groundless rumors will be dispelled--of course the gossip will always go on ...but whatever.

Let me mention one more thing in this space, even though this should go without saying: this publication is intended for those who already have a basic idea of what's going on, I don't have time to take kids to school who haven't lived or pondered enough to relate. But, once again, if you want to debate any of this or get any more info, or a recording of any of this music, get in touch and I'll be happy to set you up.

AN INLAND EMPIRE PRODUCTIONS



NEWS AND UPDATES

Two great comps are out: already out is the DAREMPIRE STRIKES BACK CLEVELAND COMPILATION, which is, of course, Cleveland punk & HC on DAREMPIRE recs. I've heard from many sources that it is incredible; it has INTEGRITY, CONFRONT, FACEVALUE, OUTFACE, PALECREATION, BOWEL, 6FEETDEEP, RINGWORM, theGUNS, BRAINWASHED YOUTH, and a variety of other swell stuff. There's a video version out too. I saw some of Jeff Grey's INTEG videos (see last issue 4 address) they're good, you should check them out. Out at the end of March on the new AMMUNITION (address on page 10) recs is BRINGING IT BACK a comp of all the best new southern California HC: it has music by STRIFE, FOCUSED, MEANSEASON, UNBROKEN, PROCESS, OUTSPOKEN, DRIFTAGAIN, IGNITE, UNASHAMED, REMAIN, RESIST, & LACK OF INTEREST. It'll be the shit, and it's put out by a great guy who's not a flake at all, so order it. #2 release on AMMUNITION will be the REMAIN 7", (emo with a bite) due at the end of May. The guys at ZED record store wanted me to say that they have a huge selection of SXE/HC/punk shit, and if you call them they'll mail order anything you want anywhere, the next day. (their address: page 10 in here) Call or write them & they'll get you a catalogue, they're a cool place so give it a try. The new CONVERGE single from Boston is not bad, tho the best song was on the East Coast Assault comp and the rest is not earthshaking. Also, these kids seem kind of young to get to go to a studio. The demo by DEADWAIT is discussed later in here, it's a perfect 10 for simplistic straight from the heart SXE HC. I don't like the new EDGEWISE album as much as their older music, the mix and the sound in general isn't as hard, and sometimes it sounds like they're trying to be something that they're not (that is, hard.) There are a couple good songs, tho. There's a new HC band from Boston called TOETAG--they sound just like SLAPSHOT on SUDDEN DEATH OVERTIME, but of course SLAPSHOT was a lot better (back then.) This guy called Frank is trying to do a SXE zine called "FEDUP" in Miami, write him (address inside) and see if he's having any luck. In San Francisco CHAPTER recs and FADE IN mail order (SXE stuff, etc.) share an address (inside)--CHAPTER just put out the RESTRAIN and SECOND COMING 7"s, and due are 7"s by ~~SWORN~~ and EVERLAST. I have no idea what that stuff sounds like at all--I guess it's new SXE HC.

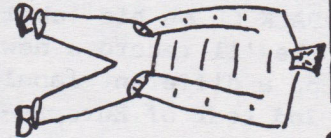
see an ad where they're moshing, 'Out of the mosh pit and into a Buick.'



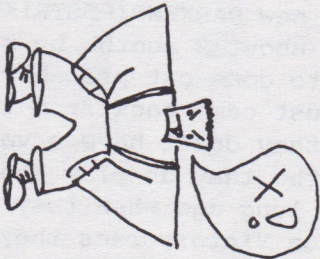
SHADOW recs in Baltimore, MD (address last issue) has, besides the NEXTSTEPUP lp, an anti-racist comp with BURN, NEXTSTEPUP, DOWNFALL, BLOOD, STONE, MALCOLM'S LOST and others, and also the MALCOLM'S LOST 7" (I don't know who the fuck they are.) WATERMARK recs (address in last issue) is now selling the old ENCOUNTER ep "LOST" which is really good, 4 emo, and they have a 7" by that new European band BLINDFOLD and some other stuff. CONQUER THE WORLD recs has a great distribution list (lots of rare stuff) has a compilation of European & worldwide HC due out sometime. CHOKEHOLD and BLOODLET are going on tour together this summer, last I heard--call Jeff at 905-389-3436 if you want more info or to help them out. ENDPOINT has a new album due out on DOGHOUSE recs. I think all the other news you're looking 4 can be found in the interviews, or in the first issue (which is also free so if you don't have it you have no excuse not to send a stamp for it.) Remember, AMMUNITION and ZED addresses are at the foot of the STEVE of CONFRONT interview, the rest is scattered throughout.



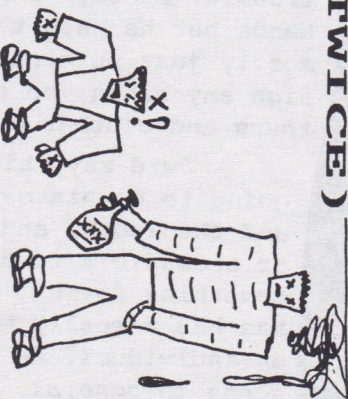
(TWICE)



pukes.

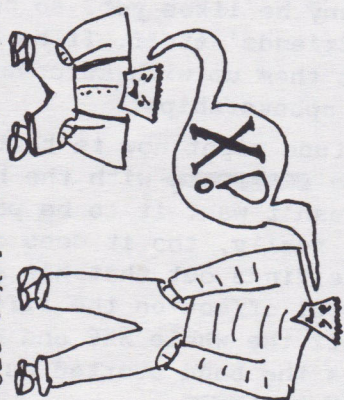


doesn't.



that is a dumb idea.

and Moe doesn't.



Midas has an idea.

straight together.

DWID OF INTEGRITY AND DARK EMPIRE RECORDS

When a separate reality beed spast the mere flesh of barbaric
heated abstinence frees the spine, unleashing your mind...

Dwid sings for longtime Cleveland, OH HCore band INTEGRITY, and operates DARK EMPIRE records which puts out lots of Clevo HC. I talked to him on Feb. 10, 94. Integ has 2 new songs (1 a cover of NEGATIVE APPROACH) on the new DARKEMPIRE STRIKES BACK CD on his label, and in about 2 months he says they'll record a new album, to come out probably on a different label. They just came back from their 2nd tour of Europe--he says they don't have a van (or the \$) to tour the USA, tho they do play shows out of Cleveland. He told me long ago when they were put out their first 7" on Victory recs they were gonna tour with INSIGHT of Utah; but there was a disagreement: Integ put out a cassette single on PROGRESSION recs, which according to Dwid pissed off Tony of Victory, who stopped sending them their copies of the 7" (he said they could tell a new pressing had been done b/c they were coming out in a new color, and he received none) so when he asked for his copies, Tony sent them to him smashed into bits. Dwid says they had decided then that everyone could fuck off and there would be no more records, but they ran into Ron of the Accused who does Over-kill recs, so he put out THOSE WHO FEARTOMORRW for them; he said that their distribution (DUTCHEAST, which DARKEMPIRE also uses) has been good so far. He said he started DARKEMPIRE so he could finally see a label run right for a change, and he wants to be able to put out records that come with free shit and things like that, to make it worth everyone's trouble. He says DARKEMPIRE would be happy to sign bands but he hasn't seen any he likes yet, so he mostly just puts out his friends' stuff. If he does sign any bands, he can set them up with European tours and clothes company sponsorships.

Dwid says his attitude right now is that he's going to do his own thing ~~with~~ with the band and the label, and he doesn't want it to be popular or accessible to anyone, really, tho it does do something for him when he finds out that his music has had a really meaningful effect on the life of an individual. He blew off the whole SXE and HC scene in general; he says the band started out SXE

but they left the movement behind a long time ago because they decided it was too trendy, and they disagreed with a lot of the kids over things such as vegetarianism. He himself is straight but he doesn't want it confused with a movement or a dogma. He says he's shocked to see the scene today so different, all the kids so soft and trendy--the latest thing in Cleveland is to be antiabortion, which he thinks is just not his business as a guy.

As for the lyrics, he says DEADWRONG and LIVE IT DOWN weren't vegan songs: they just described what a pussy thing it was to eat animals you hadn't had to hunt yourself, and how pompous humans using animals for makeup product experimentation is. Dwid told me alot of his lyrics are drawn from his experiences as a child and growing up, and people often get confused by them because they don't realize that they don't necessarily follow a linear train of thought. The band isn't Christian (says he's not positive what he believes in, as far as that goes, from one day to the next) but the song KINGDOM OF HEAVEN was based on a story from the Lost Books of Eden (the books left out of the KING JAMES version of the Bible) about Jesus going down to hell to set free the souls unjustly held there, while his body was in the cave.

Dwid told me that he's learned that most people are evil, and that evil will always rise to the top and be victorious. He says he's been fucked over so much that his goal right now is to get revenge on everyone who has dealt him dirt. He says hardcore should be an outlet for the kids who have the balls to do their own thing, who must suffer daily for it from everyone else, so that those kids can have ~~something~~ something to call their own. He got a lot of shit growing up, he was kicked out of high school for defending himself in fights, but he says that's OK because now he's making something out of himself while the people who fucked with him are working at McDonald's where they belong. He says people are born good or evil, to be either members of the herd or overmen in Nietzsche's words, and he even went so far as to compare the kids who get fucked with in high school to Christ, in terms of the burden of human scorn and persecution which they must bear. He also says there's no way to deal with people who fuck with you or stand in your way except to take them down.

you motherfucker

Dwid told me about how the kids in the bands NAKED ANGELS and RELEASE compiled a list of all the bands that SXE kids shouldn't listen to or allow to play shows, and how INTEGRITY was at the top. He says he doesn't believe in bands trying to tell kids what to do; 4 instance he doesn't stop the band when a fight starts in the audience because he doesn't believe in having a "teacher-student-relationship" with them. He says that when he met Ray and Porcell they were really good guys, but that Krishna has no place in Hardcore--he sees the 'shna's around hinting to kids that they might actually get to meet their idols from YOUTHOFTODAY and the CROMAGS if they join up. He says that most music sounds like rehashed shit to him, of the stuff coming out now; just ripoffs of the old stuff which he still listens to. But, he does like the new band RINGWORM from his region (their album should be out soon on LOST&FOUND recs or maybe DARKEMPIRE) altho he says they're sort of unmotivated. Dwid says the name INTEGRITY doesn't mean they think they're holy or anything, just that they don't kiss anyone's ass; the band is a family and their beliefs are all similar. Finally, for all you kids whose IQs qualify you for tax breaks, the sleeve notes in the first CD were a joke--altho he said that Tony Victory actually did pose in Sassy magazine....!

Write to DarkEmpire Records, PO BOX 770213
Lakewood, OH 44107 for info about INTEGRITY or the records DARKEMPIRE has out, or a shirt catalogue.

Tony of Victory Records

Tony operates Victory records, which publishes bands like STRIFE, SNAPCASE, and EARTH CRISIS. In fact, those bands just finished a seminal tour together: Tony said there was a big turnout and lots of kids were really into it. Earth Crisis should be touring again this summer, and in May-June Snapcase will tour Europe with SickofItAll. Tony said SOIA is putting out their next album on a major label, which he thinks is not cool; he doesn't like to see HC bands leaving the smaller parts of the scene behind on their way up. By the way, the new SNAPCASE album,



previously expected out around Christmas, is now due out March 2, 1994, because of the Earthquake in California for some reason. Tony doesn't plan to sign any new bands any time soon, he says in the future his label should stay true to the older style HC, tho they are putting out a rockabilly album: "hi-fi and the roadburners," partly because he loves that music and partly because he wanted a Chicago band on his label. Victory does distribute other labels such as INITIAL (sxe/hc-type stuff) DOGHOUSE (melodic sxe/hc) EQUAL VISION (Krishna) TEMPERANCE (HC I guess) ARTMUNK (post-hc stuff) and CONQUERTHEWORLD (melodic & foreign HC) Tony's old band EVEN SCORE is practising again, he says there is a real chance they will tour & record again. He says that his band has always been SXE and still will be; but he says that he is more laid back now, in that there used to be a need for a violent stance in the midwest scene but things are different now. He is happy 2 see less pointless fighting at the shows, tho people still dance violent (which he says is a fundamental part of HC.) He says violence was a sort of facet of his youth that he realized was unproductive, and that a lot of people who were into it were more bark than bite anyway. He looks at SXE as more of a personal thing now, since it used 2 get him down when he expected everyone else 2 be straight and he would get let down. He's been vegan 4 four & a half years, but that's also a personal value that he says people must consider individually. He has no problem with religion in the scene--he distributes EQUAL VISION, a Krishna label, because he says he supports anyone sincere about what they're doing. He did say that he thinks there are a lot of lazy kids out there, and that he thinks its important to have a good work ethic and not just go back home after college. As 4 HC, he says he thinks its 2 segregated today into little subdivisions, that there's no unity and it will only get worse until it's just friends in different subsets going 2 see each other's bands. Finally, regarding Dwid's statements about Victory, he didn't deny sending him smashed records, but he did say that he sent them their records when they were pressed. He said "most of the whole thing was petty personal problems instigated by an outside source." 2 and a half years ago he put the 7" out of print because he was sick of dealing with the problem. Tony told me that he was surprised 2 hear Dwid was still mad, and that he "didn't want to go thru life carrying grudges."

STEVE of CONFRONT & MEANSTREAK

6/1

Steve sang 4 Cleveland bands CONFRONT and MEANSTREAK. He's 24, and he'll be attending law school next year. He says most of the old SXE crew he grew up with are now into smoking pot, and the scene is now mostly younger kids there. He told me lots of band news: SPLINTER is a great hard metallic HC band from Akron, OH on the way up (send \$5 cash to JOSH of TENACITY records, PO Box 599 Dorchester, MA 02124 for their LP). RINGWORM has a new lineup, another guiter & a new drummer, and they're supposed 2 be even better (by the way if you can get it their demo was much better than their album, deeper & cleaner). The singer & guitarist of OUTFACE are supposed 2 be forming a new band with Walter (bass) & Sammy (drums) of YOUTHOFTODAY, believe it or not (!) Steve said CONFRONT is reforming with Dwid on bass, and he also sings for DARKEMPIRE band BOWEL, which is a grindcore band with all the members of INTEG but Dwid. Guitarist Aaron of INTEG plays in 2 Discharge-style punk bands, THE WOGS and BRAINWASHED YOUTH. Steve described the DARKEMPIRE band MIGHTY SPHINCTER as "punk GG (ALLEN)" shit. He's also working on 2 new bands, an INFEST-style band ARSENAL with drummer Tony of INTEG, and STRAIGHTEDGE YOUTH with Jeff Grey. He told me the latter band name was generic on purpose: he's going back to the basics with an oldschool sound like SIDE BY SIDE and similar music, in an effort to bring back what SXE was once about.

Steve says violence in every form has always been a part of HC, that it belongs there and that the music is meant 2 be aggressive. He told me that MEANSTREAK was a project that never really worked out because of arguments, so they only have that one song on the ONLYTHESTRONG 1990 compilation. He didn't express 2 much of a grudge against VICTORY for anything, tho he mentioned that at one time there was a problem between the whole Chicago and Cleveland scenes because of it. But enough of that.

92133 FL write CONFRONT
244 8325 NW 8th St #A4
FED UP SXE ZINE: Frank

Ammunition Records ZED RECORDS: 310-498-2757
PO box 461 1940 Lakewood Blvd
Bellflower, CA 90707 Long Beach, CA 90815

THE
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D

TIM OF FOCUSED

Tim sings for FOCUSED, a Christian SXE band from southern CA, which has been around for 4 years & just put out a very hard, clean CD on Tooth&Nail records. Their second guitarist Jason just left them in the middle of their winter west coast tour, he'll be replaced by Andrew Reizuch, who has played before with other bandmembers in bands like BLINDSIDE. This summer they'll be touring, playing in CA, Ohio, NY, Nebraska, & Colorado, and other states. Their next album is due in 1 to 1 & a half years, and Tim says it will be stylistically like SLAYER meets SPLIT LIP-more emo, but still with bite. They have a song on the AMMUNITION records comp coming out by April (it's described elsewhere in this issue) called "Thought," Tim said it was "slow, hard, & dark." Tim says that there's nothing wrong with him listening 2 SLAYER even tho he's Christian because he says their lyrics aren't Satanic, just brutal like the music they accompany.

TOOTH&NAIL records has a wide variety of other bands signed, from WISH4EDEN(grunge) to CRAWLSPACE (Boston HC) with oldschool punk and industrial bands too; I think they're all Christian, tho.

Tim says there's 2 much fighting in Huntington Beach. He says he loves the new stuff coming out in HC, but he'd like 2 see less tagging and shoplifting on the part of the younger kids in the scene. He says its mostly a peer-trend thing, and that he hopes his band will be good role models so that kids may do something positive with themselves and amount to something. He told me about his own confusion and mistakes growing up, that he doesn't want to see other kids go thru: in the mid-80's he said he used 2 do lots of drugs, shoplifting, etc., and he continued stealing after he became SXE in about 86. He was in jail in 1987, and he was going 2 have 2 do prison time; that was when, inspired by his father, he found Christianity; he has been Christian since. All the band members are Christian, tho they each attend a different church. He says Christian bands like his and UNASHAMED have led lots of local kids into that religion.

Tim wanted me to mention that he is a strong advocate of monogamy--he is about to be married 2 the girl he has dated for 5 years, and they have waited all this time before having sex so they would

be sure they were doing the most responsible & safe thing. He is against abortion, among other reasons because he thinks people who are not being safe or responsible use it as birth control, and he doesn't understand how SXE kids can be vegetarien but not care about unborn life.

Tim described himself as "stoked" when someone actually discussed thier antiChristian stance with him, but he thinks generally kids *disshim* behind his back and he is angry about that.

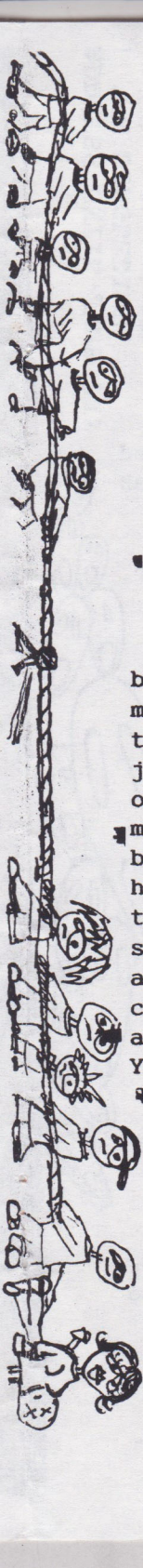
He thinks it is legitimate for his band 2 be judged on the basis of its religious stance; but he's angry that so many new kids judge him before they even know him. Tim told me they should be upfront and approach him before they begin to talk shit. As 4 other religions, he said that he thinks Krishnas are kind of silly 4 thinking that "sitting in a corner chanting all day" will put them in touch with God. Tim says that SXE is a positive thing, but that alone it's not enough. If you want 2 discuss or debate religion or morality with him, I'm sure he'd be happy 2 oblige: he says that Christianity can be proven rationally and that he does take the Bible literally. So go ahead and get in touch with him before you make any hasty judgements.

BILLY OF DEADWAIT

Billy plays drums for another southern CA SXE band called DEADWAIT, from Yorba Linda. They're part of the younger scene(they're still in highschool) but their demo tape is great: very rhythmic, simple, older style HC with a lot of feeling & good quality sound too. Last year they were called "PLUS ONE" but they got a new bassist and another guitarist & changed the name. They're on a comp with CHOKEHOLD, LINEDRIVE, & some other bands on HOLD STRONG records in Georgia, and they're recording a 7" for that label on March 14. They'll be going on tour this summer, to states like NJ, NY, Tennessee, Ohio, Georgia, and parts of the South--they may be playing some with CATHARSIS. Billy told me they're not vegetarien, tho they're all SXE, and he says he thinks it's silly when people go vegetarien just because they're in the SXE scene. By the way, those were *candy* cigarettes they had after their show at CHEAPGUYMUSIC in February...!

WHERE'S THE NEXT SEATTLE?

have
Do you think there's
cloning is a good thing?



DEADWAIT owes alot to Isaac Golub of CHORUS OF DISAPPROVAL, says Billy, for mixing and helping with their demo tape, among other things. He told me Isaac was there with them for 10 hours while they recorded; and his backing vocals on HOLDING ON are the shit. CHORUS will be touring Europe this summer, and they have a discography coming out on NEWAGE recs soon.

Billy told me that DEADWAIT's often negative, doubtfilled lyrics are a reflection of their environment; they are the only SXE kids among a bunch of rich kids in their town, and it has made their singer & lyricist Chris "very bitter," according 2 Billy, but he still "holds his own." Billy says their new music will be more complex, with difficult metal-influenced guitar. He's not pleased 2 see religion in the SXE scene these days, he doesn't mind it by itself but he says he goes 2 a show 2 see the band perform, not preach. He says the CA scene is getting 2 socially

segregated and 2 concerned with fashion & cliques &

bullshit like that. Billy has mixed feelings about the music coming out these days--he says alot of it sounds too mainstream and "some of the things NewAge puts out just totally suck," tho his favorite bands are the new ones like UNBROKEN and UNDERTOW. Finally, Billy wanted me 2 mention that DEADWAIT doesn't hang out with other bands or the Huntington Beach scene, they've had little help from anyone and they've had 2 do most of it by themselves. He said "the NewAge guy Mike Hartsfield said he was too busy to put us out," when Isaac Golub approached him about it, "and Mike said we should change our name." Go figure. If you want to learn more about DEADWAIT write: BILLY HAYES, 6561 FAIRLYNN BLVD, YORBA LINDA, CA 92686.

VINCE SPINA OF HARVEST AND EDGEWISE

Vince plays guitar for EDGEWISE, and he just put out their new album THE MASSACRE OF THE INNOCENTS on his new label HARVEST RECORDS. He told me that at this time only the cassettes have come out, because of a problem with the covers at the printing company. Also on his label are SHADOWSEASON, a melodic band, STARKWEATHER, a metal/HC band(their album sounds like their cut on the ESATCOASTASSAULT comp) and TURMOIL, a "moshy" new HC band whose 7" will be out soon.

ADDRESS UNTIL JUNE 94:
1 - AN DINGLEDINE

EDGEWISE itself has been around since 1989; they were once a SXE band, but are no longer, due 2 changes in lineup. Their singer (Vince's brother) will graduate college soon, so they may be on ice or finished then. Vince said they were in EDGEWISE from the beginning 4 the sake of being in a band, not to take a SXE stance. He said the scene in Penn was big about 4 years ago, but the shows stopped 4 awhile and now fewer people show up. They usually play their shows out of state. Vince said the name of their new album had no real significance, that he was taking an art class at the time so he just put the painting on the cover and named the album after it. He said that, tho he couldn't speak 4 his older brother who writes the lyrics, he thought that their more violent lyrics were more an outlet in themselves 4 aggression rather than a real life threat. As for other bands, Vince told me that as of July the band MAYDAY of Virginia was still around, and that he heard that CONVICTION just broke up--he said their 7" on SMORGASBORG was good. Finally, he told me that he heard that singer Dwid of INTEGRITY broke into a 1 morgue, cut the ear off a girl's corpse, and was 7 wearing it around his neck.


(that last statement is 4 all you fucks who got into the SXE/HC scene because they cancelled your favorite soap opera or gossip column. Call or write & we can set a time & date to fight, you fucking losers..)

CHRIS OF POINT BLANK

POINT BLANK broke up in 1992, but ex-singer has some things 2 say about shit that went down with his band. Lots of people hated POINTBLANK 4 different reasons: MAXIMUM ROCK&ROLL (those pussy rejects) said they were sexist & racist because of the song "WE DON'T OWE YOU SHIT" on their first 7". It was an anti-begging song (check that out, if you want to hear a racist statement: "songs against begging are racist." you ignorant shit...) About that song, Chris told me it was written on the spur of the moment by someone they took into the band just before they went into the studio, who they kicked out right after they recorded it. He says he regrets the song, but he isn't going 2 apologize 2 anyone and he hates it when people talk shit about him who don't know him personally. Chris




YEAH, BOYYYY...



told me that "unfortunately at the time he did agree" with the controversial song's lyrics, because he was "young, and didn't know better." Now he says he's seen more around where he lives to make him disagree with them, but that he's "not caving in to anyone's threats" about it. He told me that other people in the SXE scene at the time looked down on POINT B because they didn't hang out with the more established bands, and because there was rivalry between POINTB's hometown GARDEN GROVE and the more "cool" HUNTINGTON BEACH. The guys who were cool to them were ONESTEP AHEAD, who he said, were great guys, CHORUS OF DISAPPROVAL, and VISUAL DISCRIMINATION (who were another band that got shit, because they were into violence.) Chris said that violence has a place in the HC scene, but only when its justified; he told me that when he was young he liked fighting, but now he thinks its stupid. He told me that POINT BLANK was not a declared SXE band, (that was another reason some kids hateds them) but that the whole band was straight. Chris hates the fashion phases the CA scene goes thru, and he thinks its ridiculous when bands tell kids not to dance because HC is all about getting frustration out.

POINT BLANK broke up because they were "going nowhere." After their 2nd 7" they kicked out their second bassist, and they couldn't find a new one. They broke up and reformed as BONESAW, which he said was a mistake because they really didn't think it out, so their first recording sucked. They gave it up for 1 and a half years, but now "after musical & mental changes" they're giving it another try: the new album is due in May or June on LOST&FOUND records, and it will be much heavier and more "uptodate" than their previous music.

OTIS REEM



OTIS REEM is a ska band centered in Greensboro, North Carolina. (4 info write David Drossman, 287 UNC-G Station, Greensboro, NC 27413 or call 919-334-2929 and ask for "Slinky") They play a newschool ska sound dressed up with a lot of HC, funk, hiphop, etc. influence. They put on crazyshit shows, they're all good, straight guys, and they're not the Bosstones, so give them a chance. They have a 5 song demo tape out, they have a song due out on the SKA GONE SOUTH comp on BOYOHBOY records, and they may split a 7" soon with the SKALORS. I interviewed singer (one of two) Alexei and bassist E. Mark Dixon

Mark told me that the bandmembers are all drug-free because they need 2 be clearheaded 2 be good musicians. He expressed frustration that he had 2 give up drugs, but he said it was a worthwhile trade-off for being a star in a famous band. He told me that OTIS REEM doesn't have any enemies--they love everybody, & besides they need 2 be evryone's friends so they can get shows. He said they can't wait 2 play shows in California because he hears they dance funny there. Finally, Mark wanted 2 mention that he had still not forgiven bandmembers Britch and David ("Slinky") for making a shipment of OTIS REEM shirts in orange and green logos. He said "those motherfuckers, they should have checked with me first."

Alexei wanted me 2 repeat this quote of his for him: "There's only one ska song, and everyone just plays different versions of it." That's why they try to infuse other styles into their music. Alexei told me he was into the band mostly 4 the prestige: he'd never been in a band before, and now as singer he loves all the attention women have finally started giving him. He says his dream is 2 be like the trombone player of the TOASTERS, a fat 28-year-old sleazy man who we all saw trying 2 force himself on a group of 16yearold girls at a show last summer in North Carolina. Finally, Alexei wanted me 2 inform the world of his contempt 4 "uptight hardcore bands like CATHARSIS who think that they're so hard. They're all homophobic and shit."

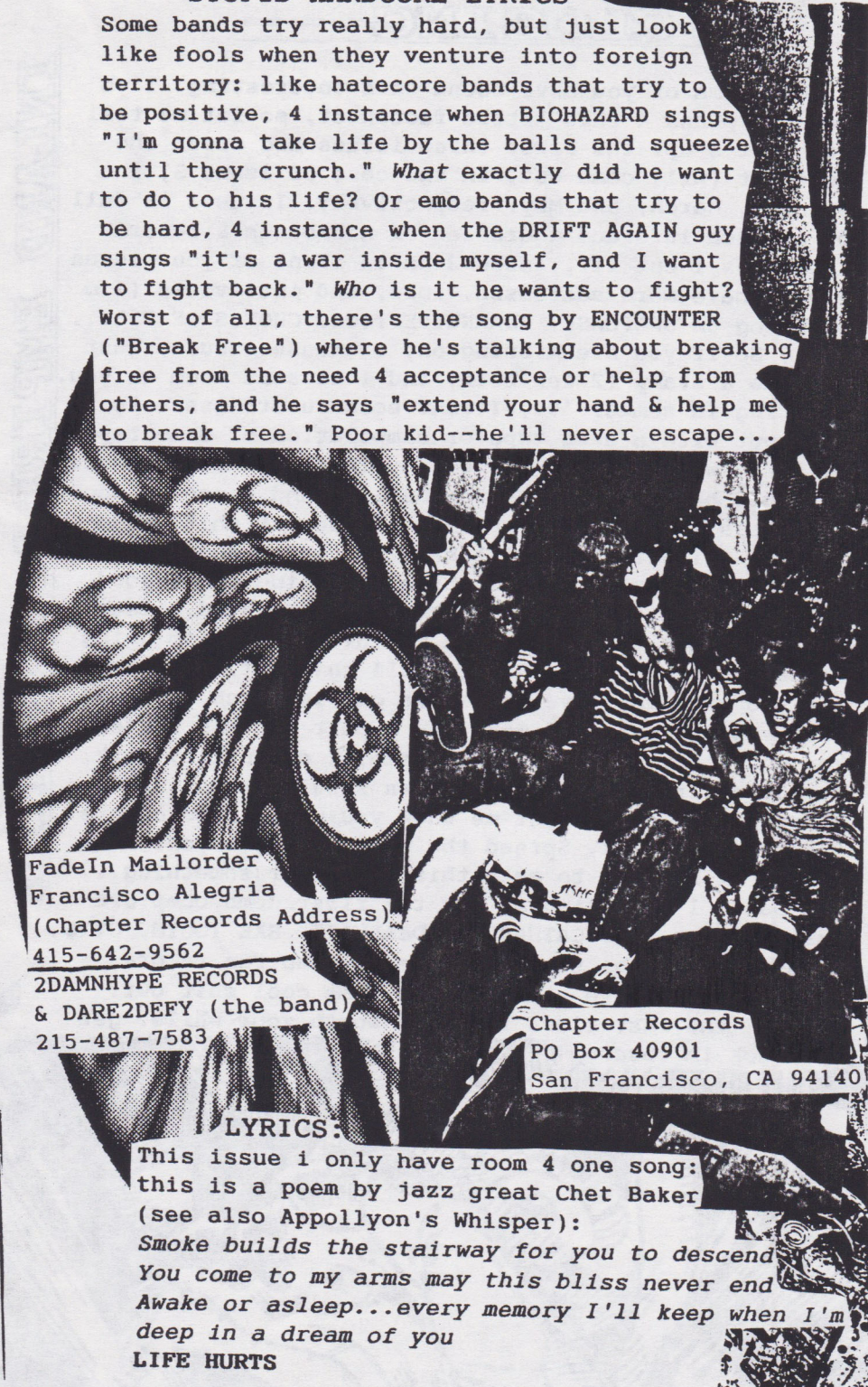
ISSUE #1 CORRECTIONS--

I won't go into the more obvious errors of issue 1 which are already cleared up elsewhere here (INTEG. didn't break up). But, on the first 30 copies, I did something hilarious: I accidentally listed the VICTORY recs phone # with the DARKEMPIRE #, which is ironic considering how they feel about each other. VICTORY's real # is 312-862-4442. I don't know how that happened. Also, RINGWORM all think alcohol & nicotine are way cool, they're not SXE at all. On the lyric page, the line "doubt and damnation" should actually read "enter my solitude." (...?) Finally, JACKTHELAD in Atlanta was

formed from the ashes of another Oi band, not COMBAT 84. I think it was, like, CONVICT 84 or something...

STUPID HARDCORE LYRICS

Some bands try really hard, but just look like fools when they venture into foreign territory: like hatecore bands that try to be positive, 4 instance when BIOHAZARD sings "I'm gonna take life by the balls and squeeze until they crunch." *What* exactly did he want to do to his life? Or emo bands that try to be hard, 4 instance when the DRIFT AGAIN guy sings "it's a war inside myself, and I want to fight back." *Who* is it he wants to fight? Worst of all, there's the song by ENCOUNTER ("Break Free") where he's talking about breaking free from the need 4 acceptance or help from others, and he says "extend your hand & help me to break free." Poor kid--he'll never escape...



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LYRICS:

This issue 1 only have room 4 one song:
this is a poem by jazz great Chet Baker
(see also Appollyon's Whisper):

*Smoke builds the stairway for you to descend
You come to my arms may this bliss never end
Awake or asleep...every memory I'll keep when I'm
deep in a dream of you*
LIFE HURTS

--CLOSING--

INLAND EMPIRE Productions

I hope some of you have found this interesting. I've got big plans 4 this little factsheet, so let me tell you what's up: the first three issues are free, and came out (will come out, in the case of issue 3) in January, March, and May, respectively. Issue 1 is full of as much info and addresses of new bands & record labels as I cut fit. Issue 2 is in front of you. Issue 3 will have more addresses, info, and interviews (I'm planning on SNAPCASE, 2DAMNHYPE recs, CHORUS OF DIS... etc.) So if you are missing any of these issues, just send me a stamp (2 for both) and I'll send them to you. Starting in summer '94, I want each future issue to come out with a demo tape or compilation of demo tapes by the newer bands in the scene. This will be a chance 4 them 2 be heard across the nation, and 4 people who like this music 2 keep up with the newest shit. When I begin doing that, I will have to charge about \$3 per issue to pay my costs, if these are going to be good tapes. If you are in a band who is interested, please write or call so we can work on this. Also, I'm going to need a real readership to pull this off, so please, all you kids who love this shit get in touch so I can keep you uptodate and make you a part of this project. You won't regret it: I'm no flake, I do quality work, as these first three free issues should prove. Send me your address and let me know you want to be on the subscription list. Spread the word, let everyone know and we'll be able to make this count for something... The bands I'm looking at for the first demo comp are smaller ones like CATHARSIS, DEADWAIT, SXE YOUTH, OTIS REEM--but I'll be talking to people who run record labels, and I have plans to get some cool shit out. So, for the last time, it'll be worth your while: get the fuck in touch.



ENDORSEMENTS

I still have to give it up to Best Health (see issue 1) for the best root beer, but STEWART'S Cream Ale has got to be the smoothest creamiest cream soda I've ever tasted. If you can't find it in any stores get in touch with CABLE CAR BEVERAGE CORPORATION in Denver, CO zip 80229. If you live in LA, you need to patronize the CANDY CASTLE in Westwood--it has all the drinks I've mentioned here, any kind of candy you didn't even know existed, and then some. The owner is a great guy with a heart of gold, he'll order anything you want; they just opened and they're trying to stay in business so help them out. Finally, OXBOW guitars in Chapel Hill, NC (919-929-2473) has got to be the only place to buy guitars and that shit--you know how most places are just wannabe rock stars, and corporation leeches who want your money? I just got a guitar there and the guy threw in a \$100 case, cords, strings ...and adjusted it to my preferences for free. He truly cares about his work and he does mailorder, so check him out.

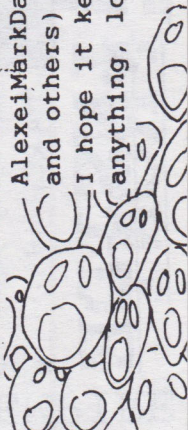


ABOVE: Chorus of Disapproval show (photo Daryl 818 Special thanks 2 TJ Gilleran 4 copying equipment.

THANKS TO: Loara Cadavona (theusual), me (for shelling out almost every cent of the cost for copying) and everyone who's been so helpful so far for distribution (Jeff Grey, Chris Igby, Alexei Mark Dave etc., Dwid, Garrett Rice, and others) and for interviews. You guys surprised me. I hope it keeps up--thanks. If you ever need anything, look me up...

(945 Westwood Blvd.)
310-208-0293

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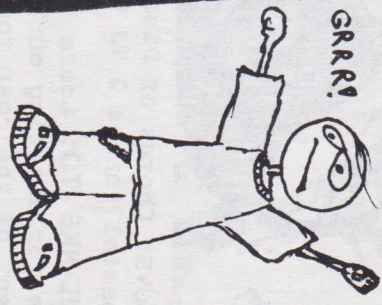


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